
Presentation to:

The FCC Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact
of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks

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NEUSTAR®

- When disasters disrupt telephone service, telephone traffic in and out of the impacted area may need to be rerouted.
- Traditional methods, such as remote call forwarding, require the home switch to be operational.
- Local Number Portability allows carriers to point traffic away from a disabled telecom switch and toward a switch that is working.
 - Local Number Portability is a database technology, administered by NeuStar, that allows carriers to reroute traffic. Carriers use instructions from NeuStar's database to port telephone numbers thereby causing the traffic to reroute.

- Neustar first used number portability for disaster recovery after 9/11.
 - Numbers were ported from NYC to New Jersey and Connecticut.
 - Necessary waivers received from FCC to allow carriers to port across regulatory boundaries.
 - Neustar coordinated recovery efforts with carriers, state and federal officials.
 - In excess of 60,000 telephone numbers were ported.
 - Numbers were ported back following the repair of the telecom infrastructure.
 - Porting of wireline numbers
 - Involved close coordination with carriers.
 - Wireless number portability was not available at that time.

- NeuStar utilized number portability to a greater degree for Katrina Disaster Recovery.
 - Neustar coordinated recovery efforts with carriers, state and federal officials.
 - Due to regulatory restrictions, some companies experience operational difficulties using local number portability for disaster recovery.
 - Both wireless and wireline numbers were ported.
 - Approximately 300,000 numbers were moved from disaster impacted areas.
 - Numbers moved and traffic rerouted within 5-6 days from 8/29 landfall of Katrina.
 - Numbers were ported back following telecom infrastructure repairs.

- NeuStar participated in a trial with Time Warner Telecom and NY PSC in Manhattan in November 2005.
 - Unlike 9/11 and Katrina, data entry required to port numbers was completed and alternate locations for traffic delivery were specified prior to the mock disaster.
 - NeuStar Disaster Recovery System was built specifically for the trial.
 - The trial involved the successful rerouting of numbers from a business location in Manhattan to alternate locations, call testing was completed, and traffic was rerouted back to the original location, all within 30 minutes.
 - “The New York Local Number Emergency Preparedness Trial confirmed the viability of using Local Number Portability, known as LNP, as a means to reroute telephone traffic during a catastrophic network failure.”
-New York PSC Press Release 2/8/06 (attached)
 - NeuStar is working with regulators and industry to participate in further trials.

More Information



NeuStar Katrina Webpage

- <http://www.neustar.biz/katrina/>
- Out-of-LATA porting Document

NYPSC Emergency Preparedness Trial Report

- http://www.dps.state.ny.us/03c0922_LNP_Report.pdf

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